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CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1952.

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CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council ... ... L. J. Wiles, Esq., J.P.

Vice-Chairman " " ... ... W. J. Garratt, Esq., A.M.I.Mech.E.

Chairman of the Public Health Committee. W. J. Garratt, Esq., A.M.I.Mech.E.

Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee ... Mrs. F. Ballance. (to May, 1952.)
Mrs. I. F. Bostock (from May, 1952.)

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Duncan T. McAinsh, M.C., M.A., M.B., Ch.B.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

G. Richardson, M.S.I.A., Certificate S.I.E.J.B.
Certificate for Meat and Food Inspector.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

D.W. Paul, M.S.I.A., Certificate S.I.E.J.B.
A.R.San.I. (to 29th January, 1952).

O.W. Parnall, Certificate S.I.E.J.B.
(from 3rd March, 1952).

CLERKS.

Mrs. K. M. Armishaw.

Miss J. Lockley.

To the Chairman and Members of Cannock Rural District Council:-

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for 1952, this being the fourteenth Annual Report by me to you on the health and sanitary conditions of the district. Ministry of Health Circular 2/53 of 22nd January, 1953, has been used as a guide in its compilation. As previously, the report contains a section by your Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The Local Health Services under Part 111 of the National Health Services Act, 1946, are administered by the Staffordshire County Council as last year.

During the year 149 council houses were completed: in addition eight temporary units of accommodation came into use. During 1952 37 houses were built privately. The waiting lists for houses are still considerable. The additional houses in the Eastern part of the district emphasised the need for alterations and extentions to the sewage system there, and proposals to the Ministry are at present under consideration.

The incidence of infectious diseases has been low, the figures for Measles, Whooping Cough, Scarlet Fever and Pneumonia being 38, 30, 32 and 6 compared with the figures of 313, 151, 14 and 19 for 1951. There was one case of Acute Poliomyelitis: this was treated in Staffordshire General Infirmary and made a complete recovery. The number of cases of Diphtheria was the same as in 1951, namely two. Neither case had previously been immunised, but both made satisfactory recovery.

The corrected Birth Rate for the district was again higher than for the Country as a whole - 19.35 per 1,000 as against 15.3 : the district corrected Death Rate was 9.27 per 1,000, while that for England and Wales was 11.3. Once again there was no case of Maternal Mortality.

In the preparation of this report I wish to acknowledge the willing assistance given by the staff of the Health Department: for certain statistics I have to thank the Engineering and the Finance Departments.

In conclusion I am grateful to the Members of the Cannock Rural District Council and in particular to the Chairman of the Health Committee for the help they have given and the understanding and co-operation they have shown in questions relating to the health of the district.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Duncan T. McAinsh.

Medical Officer of Health.

Statistics of the Area.

Area (in acres) 55,256 - unchanged.

Registrar General's estimate of the resident population 24,400.

Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book at 31st March, 1953 = 6457.

Rateable Value as at 31.3.53. £110,464, and a penny rate produces £420.

BIRTHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Live Births.	230	224	454
Legitimate.	218	212	430
Illegitimate.	12	12	24
Total Stillbirths.	8	5	13
Legitimate.	7	5	12
Illegitimate.	1	-	1

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population for the district 18.61.
Corrected Birth Rate per 1,000 population for the district 19.35.
Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales 15.3.

Stillbirths 27.84 per 1,000 total (live & still) Births.
- for England and Wales the corresponding figure is 22.6.
Stillbirth Rate .53 per 1,000 population.
Stillbirth Rate England and Wales 0.35 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS.

Total 202. Male 114. Female 88.

Local Crude Death Rate 8.28 per 1,000 population.
Corrected Death Rate 9.27 per 1,000 population.
Death Rate for England and Wales 11.3 per 1,000 population.

The Maternal Mortality Rate for the country was .72 per 1,000 total Births (live and still).

There was no case of Maternal Mortality in the district during the year.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age = 13.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births.....28.63.

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.....30.23.

There were no Deaths of illegitimate Infants during the year 1952.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)..... Nil.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) 1.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) Nil.

INCIDENCE OF SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA AND PNEUMONIA DURING THE TEN YEARS 1943 - 1952.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.
1943.	87.	29.	41.
1944.	39.	31.	26.
1945.	28.	29.	14.
1946.	22.	11.	25.
1947.	58.	5.	24.
1948.	99.	2.	12.
1949.	65.	2.	18.
1950.	19.	1.	7.
1951.	14.	2.	19.
1952.	32.	2.	6.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR 1952.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox.....	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	32	5	-
Diphtheria.....	2	2	-
Puerperal Pyrexia..	-	-	-
Erysipelas.....	1	-	-
Pneumonia.....	6	-	7
Meningitis.....	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever..	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.	1	1	-
Sonne Dysentery....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	30	-	1
Measles.....	38	-	-

TUBERCULOSIS YEAR 1952.

	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.	
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M & F.	M & F.
0 to 1 year.....	-	-	-	-	-	1
1 and upwards.....	-	-	-	1	-	1
5 and upwards.....	-	-	1	1	-	-
10 " "	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 " "	3	-	-	-	-	-
20 " "	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 " "	4	3	1	1	-	-
35 " "	1	-	-	-	1	-
45 " "	1	-	-	-	1	-
55 " "	2	1	-	-	-	-
65 " "	-	-	-	-	1	-
Totals.	11	4	2	3	3	2

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS CASES IN CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT.

PARISH	DIPHTHERIA.	SCARLET FEVER.	MEASLES.	WHOOPING COUGH.
Acton & Bednall.	-	-	1	-
Blymhill.	-	-	2	-
Brewood.	-	2	8	3
Cheslyn Hay.	-	10	-	2
Coppenhall.	-	-	-	1
Dunston.	-	-	2	-
Essington.	-	7	13	4
Featherstone.	-	4	-	9
Hatherton.	1	-	-	1
Huntington.	1	2	-	-
Lapley.	-	1	2	2
Penkridge.	-	-	2	-
Shareshill.	-	1	-	3
Stretton.	-	-	-	2
Great Wyrley.	-	5	8	3
TOTALS.	2	32	38	30

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death.	Total.	Males.	Females.
Tuberculosis, Respiratory.....	3	2	1
Tuberculosis, other.....	2	2	-
Syphilitic disease.....	1	1	-
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	1	1	-
Meningococcal infections.....	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Measles.....	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases.	1	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.....	4	3	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.....	3	3	-
Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	6	-	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	3	-	3
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms..	19	7	12
Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	3	2	1
Diabetes.....	2	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	26	15	11
Coronary disease, angina.....	15	9	6
Hypertension with heart disease.....	3	-	3
Other heart disease.....	27	15	12
Other circulatory disease.....	10	6	4
Influenza.....	-	-	-
Pneumonia.....	7	4	3
Bronchitis.....	13	8	5
Other diseases of respiratory system...	4	3	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.....	4	4	-
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea....	-	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis.....	4	2	2
Hyperplasia of prostate.....	1	1	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.....	-	-	-
Congenital malformations.....	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	27	11	16
Motor vehicle accidents.....	6	6	-
All other accidents.....	6	6	-
Suicide.....	1	1	-
Homicide and operations of war.....	-	-	-
TOTALS.	202	114	88

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS AND WELFARE CLINICS IN CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT.

These clinics are under the arrangement of Staffordshire County Council.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

Child Welfare Clinics were held weekly at Featherstone, and fortnightly at Brewood, Coven, Cheslyn Hay, Essington, Great Wyrley, Huntington, Wheaton Aston and Penkridge.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS.

Ante-natal Clinics were held fortnightly at Featherstone, Great Wyrley, Huntington and Penkridge.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The ambulance service is under the control of Staffordshire County Council; with the depot for this district at Cannock it operates a 24 hour service, and has proved entirely satisfactory.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47. - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Under the above Section Miss Florence Louisa Smith, age 76, was removed from the Aqueduct Inn, Stretton, to Ivy House, Cannock, on 20th June, 1952. She was incapable of taking proper care of herself, and no relatives were, at the time, available to look after her. When the order expired after three weeks, it was not found necessary to have it renewed. By that time the patient had settled down and remained at Ivy House on a voluntary basis.

She still is (at July, 1953) a contented voluntary patient in Ivy House.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Summary of Inspections and Work done during 1952.

Number of houses inspected for repairs.....	200.
Re-inspections, calls etc.....	504.
Slaughterhouse licences renewed.....	21.
Meat and Food inspections.....	45.
Visits to Dairies and Milk Distributors.....	6.
Petrol licences renewed.....	66.
New petrol licences issued.....	14.
Drainage work examined.....	160.
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated.....	33.
Cases of Infectious Disease removed.....	6.
Houses disinfected after Infectious cases.....	32.
Reports of infectious cases to M.O.H. (excluding T.B.).....	108.
New licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.....	1.
Renewal licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.....	80.
Informal Notices issued..... (Affecting 137 houses)	88.
Statutory Notices issued.....	1.
Number of Privies or closets other than water closets converted to water closets.....	1.
Water Samples taken.....Chemical.....	41.
Bacteriological.....	41.
Moveable Dwelling licences issued.....	85.
Visits re Moveable Dwellings.....	250.
Visits re Refuse matters.....	250.
Visits re Disinfestation for vermin.....	16.

SPECIAL MILK LICENCES.

Food and Drugs Acts, 1938/44.
Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

	Pasteurised.	Sterilised.	Tuberculin Tested.	Accredited.
Supplementary Licences.	5	5	5	-
Dealers' Licences.	13	14	8	-

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year 1952 the water supplies from the three main suppliers viz:- The South Staffordshire Water Works Company, the Wolverhampton Corporation, and the Stafford Corporation, remained satisfactory as regards quality. During the year, however, the supply from Wolverhampton to the Bishops Wood area was intermittent at times owing to there not being sufficient pressure to reach this area during the peak hours of the day. It is understood that the Wolverhampton Water Undertaking intend to take the neccessary steps to remedy this fault.

The Parishes of Acton and Bednall were traversed with the main supply pipe in the closing months of 1952.

The mains of the South Staffordshire Water Works Company were extended so as to cover the Watling Street from Four Crosses to the Woodlands and the Stable Lane area in the parish of Hatherton.

No waters were proved liable to plumbo-solvent action.

PARTICULARS OF NUMBER OF HOUSES SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC AND PRIVATE WATER MAINS.

	HOUSES.	HOUES SUPPLIED DIRECT.
Acton & Bednall.....	124	80
Blymhill.....	147	80
Brewood.....	991	869
Cheslyn Hay.....	846	845
Coppenhall.....	40	38
Dunston.....	81	26
Essington.....	848	842
Featherstone.....	244	244
Hatherton.....	156	148
Huntington.....	362	362
Hilton.....	92	86
Lapley.....	229	196
Penkridge.....	756	677
Saredon.....	118	108
Shareshill.....	98	94
Stretton.....	48	45
Teddesley Hay.....	28	22
Weston-under-Lizard.....	81	76
Great Wyrley.....	1,213	1,209

ANTHRAX.

During the year 10 suspected cases of Anthrax were reported compared with 9 suspected cases in the previous year.

REFUSE COLLECTION.

The collection of house refuse was carried out by direct labour throughout the Council's district. Four Refuse Collection Vehicles - One of seven cub. yd. capacity and three of ten cub yd. capacity - were used. Nineteen men including drivers being employed. About 6,400 dwellings received the service, some 5,400 being served weekly and the remainder fortnightly.

The provision of a regular refuse collection service to a Rural district such as this with an acreage of 55,256, neccessitating a yearly mileage of 30,000 miles is, in my opinion a satisfactory achievement. Approximately 7,000 tons of refuse were collected during the year.

PAN LAVATORIES.

The emptying of approximately 1,080pan lavatories (including some 520 moveable dwellings) was done throughout the year by a team of three men using one refuse collection vehicle of seven cub. yd. capacity adopted for this work. This regular service neccessitated 630 loads covering some 15,000 miles. This gives some indication of the task undertaken.

CESSPOOLS.

The emptying of cesspools represents a problem of no small degree and was carried out in the Parishes of Brewood, Great Wyrley, Cheslyn Hay, Hatherton, Saredon, Featherstone, Stretton, Hilton, Huntington, Essington, Shareshill and Penkridge during 1952, by two Cesspool Emptiers of 720 and 800 gallon capacity respectively. The smaller vehicle was purchased in 1943 and the larger early in 1949.

Four men were employed on this work covering some 430 cesspools. Approximately 2,800 loads were dealt with. The total distance covered being 1,800 miles.